

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03
OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 EPG-02
SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 USIE-00 SSO-00
INRE-00 /076 W

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O R 190900Z JUL77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9349
INFO AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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USEEC

USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNCTAD, EFIN
SUBJ: DEBT EXPERTS MEETING - DAY ONE

1. SUMMARY: FIRST DAY DEBT EXPERTS MEETING HIGHLIGHTED BY
EFFORTS OF UNCTAD SECRETARIAT AND G-77 TO INCLUDE RESO-
LUTION 98(IV), PARAGRAPHS 10 (D), (E) AND (F) ON DEBT
EXPERTS AGENDA. UP TO NOW MAJOR GROUP B COUNTRIES
HAVE JOINED WITH US IN OPPOSING MOVE. US DELEGATION WILL
CONTINUE EFFORTS TO CONFINE DISCUSSION TO RESOLUTION 94(IV).
END SUMMARY.

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2. FIRST DAY DEBT EXPERTS' SESSION TAKEN UP BY ELECTION
OF OFFICERS AND ISSUE OF AGENDA. THE AGENDA SUBMITTED BY
THE SECRETARIAT PROPOSED "CONSIDERATION" OF TD/L124 AND
CONFERENCE RESOLUTION 98(IV) PARAGRAPHS 10 (D), (E), AND
(F) BEFORE DISCUSSIONS RELATING TO RESOLUTION 94(IV).

MAIN THRUST OF SECRETARIAT/G-77 APPEARS REVIVE THE CONTROVERSIAL SECTIONS OF PARAGRAPH 10 WHICH WE ARGUE HAVE BEEN OVERTAKEN BY LAST OCTOBER'S TDB RESOLUTION ASKING MINISTERIAL TO REVIEW MEASURES TAKEN PURSUANT TO ENTIRE RESOLUTION 98(IV).

3. US DELEGATION TAKING STRONG STAND OPPOSING ANY EXPANSION DEBT EXPERTS' MANDATE BEYOND 94(IV). IN ADDITION TO STANDARD ARGUMENTS, WE ARE STRESSING THAT IT IS NOT WITHIN THE COMPETANCE OF TECHNICALLY ORIENTED DEBT EXPERTS GROUP TO OVERTURN POLITICAL TDB DECISION NOT TO ISOLATE PARAGRAPHS 10 (D), (E) AND (F) AND INSTEAD TO TREAT 98(IV) IN ITS ENTIRETY AT MINISTERIAL. THE EC AND JAPAN ARE ALSO PRESSING TO CONFINE DISCUSSIONS TO 94(IV) WHILE SWITZERLAND AND CANADA FAVOR "FLEXIBILITY".

4. IN RESTRICTED PLENARY SESSION, G-77 SPOKESMAN INSISTED RESOLUTION 94(IV) AND 98(IV) WERE LINKED, AND THAT DEBT EXPERTS MUST DISCUSS BOTH RESOLUTIONS. THEY HAVE REJECTED GROUP B OFFER TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS ON 94(IV) WHILE LEAVING OPEN ISSUE OF 98(IV) FOR LATER IN WEEK.

5. WHILE MAJOR GROUP B COUNTRIES (UK, FRG, FRANCE, JAPAN) ARE SUPPORTING US POSITION, IT IS DIFFICULT TO FORECAST HOW LONG THEY WILL BE WILLING TO MAINTAIN "HARD LINE" WITHOUT ATTEMPTING "COMPROMISE" LANGUAGE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHICH PAPERS OVER ISSUE. ALTHOUGH THEY CLEARLY WISH TO AVOID AN IMPASSE, THE FACT THAT THEIR POSITIONS SEEMED TO HARDEN DURING COURSE OF DAY IS SOMEWHAT ENCOURAGING. FOR OUR PART, WE ARE LOBBYING AGAINST ANY COMPROMISE.

6. FRENCH DELEGATE (PFAUWADEL) HAS BEEN CHOSEN GROUP B COORDINATOR. THE EC AND JAPAN FAVORED US FOR POST, BUT CANADA AND SWITZERLAND THOUGHT IT ILL-ADVISED TO HAVE A GROUP B REPRESENTATIVE COME FROM THE ONE COUNTRY WHICH WAS ON RECORD AGAINST BOTH 2 EXPERTS GROUP MEETING AND EXTENSION OF UNCTAD MANDATE. PFAUWADEL HAS UP TO NOW PERFORMED CONSTRUCTIVELY AND IS CLEARLY ANXIOUS TO INSURE USG INTERESTS AND VIEWS ARE TAKEN FULLY INTO ACCOUNT. VANDEN HEUVEL

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NNN

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